

Margie Gerrity, Rachel Alva, Cindy Torres, Ashley Meyer

## **Mendler- Respect Power & Express Enthusiasm**

### “Portfolio Night”

Students showcase their work for their families several times a year.

How it’s done...

Preparation

Each student receives a “portfolio” at the beginning of the year. A three ring binder works well. The teacher could have a different portfolio for each subject or one portfolio for everything. The student keeps finished, corrected work in his/her portfolio for the entire quarter or set amount of time.

Portfolio Night

Students make invitations to invite their families to Portfolio Night. Portfolio Night is held each quarter and must be late enough for working family members to attend. Family members are greeted by the teacher and find a place to sit and “conference” with their student. Students are responsible to showcase their work for their families.

How this respects power and expresses enthusiasm...

Students are given the responsibility to conference with their families. This shifts the power and responsibility from the teacher to the student. This develops real-life skills because students are maintaining a portfolio of their work and choosing what they will showcase and how they will present their work. It is also a celebration of student work and invites families to be involved in their student’s education. Families are able to visit the school, meet with the teacher, and affirm their student’s learning in a less stressful environment than a parent-teacher conference.